9/27/69

Dear Bud,

On Wednesday, from Beven's office, in your absence, I phoned the Archives for a copy of the afternoon session in Judge Bellack's court. In Rhoads' absence (making speeches in Europe), I spoke to his secretary. She said they do have a copy of the transcript, as I presumed, and she said she would refer my request for a copy of the afternoon session to their Legal and Diplomatic branch. On Thursday, remarkable rapidly, from my experience of the past year or so, the enclosed reply was dictated. I got it Saturday.

As you can see, government and suppression by semantics have not ended. Angel does not say that he, the Archives, GSA or the government do not have the transcript. He says only it is not "in our office files".

Therefore, I have written him, copy enclosed, renewing my request, from whatever source or file or temporary repository.

I remind you I have made the same request of the Department of Justice which has failed to respond in any way at all. The DJ request is in writing and repeated when it was ignored.

Paul Hoch has sent me a copy of the Attorney General's memorandum on the Freedom of Information Act. If you do not have your own copy, I will provide this one. I have merely glanced at the opening pages. However, they include statements of national policy, by the President and by the then attorney general, I believe you will find useful. I have marked them, underscoring what seems to address our position in the matter.

I look forward to hearing of your New Orleans trip, anything you may have learned of what was represented of present plans, and what transcripts you got copies.

Since speaking to you, in the course of going over some files, I learned that the lawyer to whom I referred you on Raul was once an associate in the Council of Peaceful Alternatives of Leonard Reissman. If I didn't tell you, Reissman has returned to N.O. and is reluctant to talk, saying he is content to leave the record where the government (not in the Warren Report but in its files) left it. My recollection is it is a record showing he was at Stanford and was not in N.O. at the time Oswald's handbill was found near his home (and no less near Kent Courtney's home and then plant, as my investigation shows).

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg